

to the Colonial Office a scheme for the establishment of a school for the study of tropical diseases. This has now been approved, and will shortly be an established fact. The total cost of the new wing, which will give the branch hospital, situated between the Royal Victoria and the Albert Docks, forty-five beds, in addition to the new school buildings, is estimated at about £13,000. Towards this sum the Colonial Office has agreed to contribute £3,550 on behalf of the colonies and protectorates more immediately concerned, leaving some £10,000 to be raised from the public. From carefully-prepared estimates it appears that the annual cost of maintenance, including 25 additional beds, the board of the resident students, salaries of the medical tutor and their necessary attendants, and interest on capital will be £3,050 per annum. At present the India Office has not intimated its intention of joining in the establishment of the school, but Sir Henry Burdett says there is reason to hope that some step may be taken in this direction in the near future. Apart from any contribution from the India Office, there is therefore required a capital sum of £10,000 and a net income of £2,000 per annum, seeing that the fees to be paid by the Colonial Office for the resident and non-resident students towards the expenses of the school are estimated to produce at least £1,000 per annum. An appeal is made to the public for the additional funds necessary to place the school on a sound financial basis. Contributions may be paid direct to the Secretary, Mr. P. J. Michelli, Dreadnought Seamen's Hospital, Greenwich, S.E., or to the hospital account at Messrs. Williams Deacon and Manchester and Salford Bank, Limited, 20, Birchin Lane, E.C.

The school will be open to other students than those members of the medical profession who may be sent by Government Departments, or who may wish to equip themselves for service abroad. It appears from the report of the special committee which investigated the question that 78 per cent. of the cases of tropical diseases treated by the Seamen's Hospital Society had been admitted to the branch hospital, which will now contain 45 beds. Provision will be made for from 20 to 25 students, with sleeping accommodation for about 10. There will be a fully-equipped laboratory, pathological room, museum, and every other necessary calculated to make the school efficient. The teaching staff will consist of the senior medical staff of the Dreadnought Hospital at Greenwich, as well as of the branch hospital, together with a number of teachers specially selected and attached to the new school. The school will be under the immediate supervision and direction of a medical tutor, who will attend for six hours daily. Instruction will be given to students on four days in the week for four hours each day by one or more members of the teaching staff.

The scheme appears to be well devised, and we wish it all success. Much, however, will depend on the way in which it is carried out, and particularly on the selection of the men most competent to teach what is known and to enlarge the boundaries of our knowledge. The matter, as we have already said, is one of national importance, and it would be a disaster and a disgrace if petty personal jealousies were allowed to wreck the scheme.

### EPILEPTIC COLONIES.

*National Society for Employment of Epileptics.*—The annual meeting of the governors of the National Society for the Employment of Epileptics was held on July 11th, Mr. E. Montefiore Micholls being in the chair. It was satisfactory to hear from the report of the honorary medical staff that in most of the cases admitted during the past year a marked improvement had been noted. The guiding principles of the management of the inmates of the Chalfont Colonies have been regular employment in a good country air, together with abundance of simple food and avoidance of excitement and alcohol. Under such treatment the results had been up to the present all that was expected. It is less satisfactory to learn, however, that the Society which is doing such good pioneer work is in want of funds. To keep pace with the increasing demands for admission constant expansion is necessary, and the very generosity of a few large givers in providing buildings has led to the impression that existing wants are adequately supplied. Altogether about £7,000 is required for immediate needs. In

a special appeal issued by the desire of H.R.H. the Duke of York, it is stated that the most pressing of the needs are a good water supply and furniture for one of the recently given homes, which is standing empty for the want of it.

*The Meath Home of Comfort for Epileptic Women and Girls.*—The annual report shows that this institution continues to do a useful work amongst a most unfortunate section of the community. The home admits epileptics between the ages of 2 and 35 who are likely to derive benefit from residence there. They must be able to do some kind of work, and cases complicated by mental disease or deficiency or who are violent or insubordinate are not admitted. Patients are taken for varying lengths of time. The improvement in the condition of the patients after a short stay at the home is very encouraging, and cures are not infrequent. The home is well and economically managed, and admits patients from all parts of the kingdom irrespective of creed, and, like most homes of the kind, is totally unable to cope with the demands made upon it for admission of those afflicted with this disabling disease.

### LONDON SCHOOL OF MEDICINE FOR WOMEN.

The new laboratories in the recently-built Pfeiffer wing of the London School of Medicine for Women were formally opened by the Prince and Princess of Wales on July 11th.

Mrs. GARRETT ANDERSON, in an address to the Princess, said that the school had been opened for twenty-four years, and provided an education which met the requirements of the General Medical Council. Students from the school could obtain degrees or diplomas from nine of the medical examining bodies of the United Kingdom, six of them being universities. The students, who now numbered 170, received their practical training at the Royal Free Hospital, close to the school. Those who had passed out of the school and had obtained medical qualifications, were engaged in responsible work as practitioners, some at the New Hospital for Women, some in workhouse infirmaries, in asylums, and in provincial hospitals, while others were practising not only in England, Scotland, and Ireland, where they were able by the practice of their profession to maintain themselves in a position of honourable independence, but also in India, in China, in South Africa and Australia. The school had hitherto been carried on in several old houses, but the Council had now obtained a long lease of the site, and had begun the work of rebuilding by putting up the block of laboratories in which that meeting was held. The block had cost nearly £10,000, and had been named in memory of Mrs. Pfeiffer, who had made an important bequest.

After the BISHOP OF LONDON had offered prayer, the PRINCESS OF WALES formally declared the building open.

The PRINCE OF WALES said that the Princess desired him to express the pleasure with which she had taken part in the ceremony, and the interest which she felt in all that concerned the education of women. He had himself inspected the school with great satisfaction, and felt sure that it was doing a useful work considering the number not only of those who practised in Great Britain, but in our distant colonies and in India, where there was a great field for medical women.

### THE REMOVAL OF THE BELGRAVE HOSPITAL FOR CHILDREN TO SOUTH LONDON.

A MEETING of medical men practising in the neighbourhood of the proposed new site of this hospital was held on July 12th at the Clarence Hall, Kennington Park Road, Dr. J. W. OSWALD in the chair.

Mr. DUKE, who had called the meeting, said they were there to hear two gentlemen connected with the hospital speak, and to discuss certain points connected with its coming amongst them. The first question which occurred to him was whether they needed a children's hospital in that locality at all. He certainly thought that a few beds where operations could be performed on adults in urgent cases would be more useful. As general practitioners in the neighbourhood were certain to lose by the establishment of the hospital he thought they should have certain rights guaranteed, such as opportunities of attending the practice of the hospital and

operations, and be eligible for some appointments on the staff. Mr. SOPER (Clapham) asked if it was a fact that the hospital had overgrown its limits in its present locality, and the authorities had looked about for a cheap piece of ground and found it here. There was no doubt that the hospital would injure local practitioners, and he maintained that what was really wanted was a small cottage hospital.

Dr. CORBETT BLADES, who had had thirty years' work as one of the staff of the Royal South London Dispensary, thought a new children's hospital was not wanted. He enumerated the hospitals and dispensaries in the neighbourhood, and considered them amply sufficient for its wants.

Dr. GIBSON BOTT had been very much surprised to hear at a previous meeting from one of the speakers on behalf of the hospital that no wage limit was necessary, and no inquiry officer need be employed; he considered this the crux of the whole question.

In reply to questions from Mr. NELSON HARDY and others, Mr. CLINTON DENT said that with regard to the wage limit, though not convinced of its necessity, he thought it ought to be tried; and he would like those present to consider what the best wage limit was. He was personally in favour of giving free access to hospital practice to the neighbouring practitioners, but the question of allowing free use of laboratories provided by the hospital was a difficult one. They certainly were not going to bring down new practitioners to reside in the neighbourhood; none of their consulting staff were at all likely to reside there. The £50,000 they were asking for was largely for endowment, and was not all to be spent on the building.

Dr. CAUTLEY, another member of the hospital staff, also spoke. He thought the wage limit of 25s. not too high. He explained the proposal for consultation, and feared if no charge were made it would tend to pauperise the patients. One or two such cases came to the hospital every week at present, some very slight, but others serious cases. Personally he was strongly in favour of an inquiry officer.

On the motion of Dr. HOWARD, seconded by Mr. SWAN, it was resolved that those present should form themselves into a committee to watch the progress of the hospital in the interest of general practitioners.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the meeting.

## ROYAL COLLEGE OF SURGEONS OF ENGLAND.

THE usual exhibition of specimens added to the Museum during the past twelve months took place on Thursday, July 7th, on the day set aside for the election of members of Council. They include, as is usual, specimens of considerable interest, amongst the pathological series of which may be noted the following:

Portion of the skull with greatly enlarged (hypertrophied) pituitary body from a case of acromegaly. (With this there has been transferred to the Pathological Series an excellent example of an acromegalic skull formerly placed amongst the Italian crania purchased from Dr. Niccolucci in 1870.)

Leprosy of the tongue and larynx.

A series of birds' heads affected with *molluscum contagiosum*—bunting-sparrow, fowl, turkey, pheasant.

A specimen showing the results in one of Professor Rose Bradford's experiments which demonstrate a remarkable atrophy of the kidney that follows ligation of the ureter when drainage of the dilated pelvis is subsequently had recourse to.

The entire rectum and descending colon, removed during life for a congenital stricture of the former.

A pancreatic cyst removed during life.

The series has also been enriched by the incorporation of almost the whole of the preparations sent in with Mr. Percy Furnivall's successful Jacksonian Prize Essay. These, 23 in number, furnish admirable specimens of the various morbid growths affecting the stomach and intestine.

Amongst objects of curiosity may be noticed the first ovarian cyst removed by the late Sir Spencer Wells (in 1854), and Laennec's stethoscope presented by Mr. F. W. S. Le Maistre on behalf of the widow of the late Dr. Alexander Low, a pupil of Laennec; as well as the subcutaneous osteotomy saw used by Mr. William Adams in his first operation of division of the neck of the femur (December, 1869).

One new feature has been introduced by the Pathological Curator, Mr. S. G. Shattock. It consists of a series of bacteriological cultures permanently preserved by means of formalin. These comprise most of the bacteria causing disease in the human subject, the series not as yet, however,

being fully complete. The culture tubes will be displayed in cases which will stand on the museum shelves, and form a series following the last of those relating to pathology. Above the cultures is shown a set of coloured drawings carefully made from microscopic specimens especially prepared for the purpose.

The subject of bacteriology is further illustrated by a series of animals infected with pure culture in order to exhibit the chief lesions of interest that so result. It is proposed to add to these typical specimens of the infective diseases peculiar to the human subject or transmitted from the lower animals. Some such have already been obtained from the Royal Veterinary College, and include tuberculosis of the udder of a milch cow, glanders in the lung of the horse, tuberculosis from the horse. An excellent example showing the hæmorrhage occurring in the mucosa of the rabbit's stomach in the experimental diagnosis of rabies has been obtained from the Brown Institution through the kindness of the Superintendent, Professor Rose Bradford.

## MR. BALFOUR AND THE ENDOWMENT OF RESEARCH.

### PRIZE-DAY AT GUY'S HOSPITAL.

THE medals and prizes gained by the students of Guy's Hospital during the last academic year were distributed on July 13th by the Right Hon. Arthur J. Balfour, M.P. He was received in the Governors' Court Room by Mr. Cosmo Bonsor, M.P., and Dr. L. E. Shaw, Dean of the Medical School, by many of the Governors, the members of the medical and surgical staff, and some distinguished guests. Amongst those present were Lords Cobham, Lawrence, Aldenham, and Reay, the Bishop of Winchester, Sir Samuel Wilks, Bart., Sir Joseph Fayrer, Bart., the Archdeacon of London, Mr. McKinnon Wood, the Master of the Society of Apothecaries, Dr. F. W. Pavy, and Mr. J. F. France.

The centre point of interest was the theatre of the new school buildings, which was opened by the Prince of Wales a year ago. The auditorium of the building was quite filled, ladies forming a large proportion of those present, when the Treasurer, Mr. Balfour, the Governors, the staff, and their guests entered the building. They were received with much applause.

Mr. COSMO BONSOR presided, and said that two of their distinguished governors, Mr. Gladstone and Sir T. Acland, had recently died, but that other distinguished men were found to take their places, amongst whom was Mr. Balfour, who was there that day to perform one of the duties of a governor.

Dr. L. SHAW read out the names of the prize winners, and Mr. BALFOUR distributed the prizes.

Mr. BALFOUR, in the course of an address to the students, said that it was a great satisfaction to him that the first occasion on which he took part in the work of the great hospital, of which he had so lately had the honour of becoming a governor, should be in relation to that portion of its double labours which dealt with medical education. The work of the hospital in alleviating sickness and pain among the poor appealed directly and immediately to the sympathies of all. But that side of the work of the hospital could not flourish unless the medical schools of this country and of all countries engaged as they were in the furtherance of medical research were liberally aided in the great work they had to perform. The public, though it was ready to talk of the enormous advance made by the science and art of healing, did not thoroughly realise its responsibility in this respect. The progress might be expected to be still more rapid in the future if only the conditions of such progress were thoroughly realised, and public assistance adequately given. At one time almost the only sciences subsidiary to the art of healing were anatomy and physiology, but now medical research drew its inspiration not only from those sciences, but from chemistry and physics. But the growth of all departments of science and the mass of facts which they accumulated rendered specialisation inevitable. It followed that reliance for advance must be placed more and more upon people whose main labour was research. The cost of adequately equipping medical schools with teachers, and not only with teachers but also with persons who could devote